The Student Press

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News

SISHK Class of 2024: Celebrates Outstanding IBDP Results and University Offers

By **EMMA FANG**
Editor-In-Chief

The 2024 cohort of graduates performed exceptionally in the May IBDP examinations this year. They achieved a 100% pass rate and a remarkable average score of 38.9 points, which is well above the world average of 30. Out of the 29 students that got above 40 points, 3 students achieved the perfect score of 45, with another 10 students following close at 44 and 43 points.

With the college application season concluded as well, SISHK is proud to announce the university acceptance results for the class of 2024. Among the 54 graduates, they have achieved an impressive average of 4.7 offers per student.

The cohort received numerous offers from prestigious universities such as Yale University, University of Oxford, and more.

We had the opportunity to hear from two stellar graduates from the SISHK graduating class of 2024, Leo Zhou and Lisa Tsoi, on their thoughts and feelings as they transition to university and beyond.

Leo Zhou

Born in Beijing and having moved to Hong Kong in 2016, Leo has been a dedicated student at SISHK for the past eight years. His passion for public speaking and debate has led him to achieve numerous accolades, including top placements in both Mandarin and English competitions, as well as several Best Debater Awards. Having achieved a perfect IB score, Leo has received offers from the University of Hong Kong, University of Toronto, Manchester University, Imperial College London, and the University of Oxford.

What are some of the most memorable moments during your time at SISHK? How has SISHK supported you in your academic and personal growth?

Having extra lessons in IGCSE to prepare for additional mathematics where I sometimes stayed until 5 p.m with the class. I think the school teaching environment is very supportive and engages students very well academically.

In terms of personal growth, I learned a lot through being involved in the Student Council as well as the Chinese Culture Connection. I appreciate all the leadership opportunities the school provides that allows for holistic growth.

Lisa Tsoi

Having spent 14 years at SISHK, Lisa Tsoi considers it to be her second home. Her impressive academic achievements include being the International Winner of the Unsung Heroes of Science Competition, as well as winning the Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards for being the Top in World for Additional Mathematics and Top in Hong Kong for Biology. In addition to her academic success, she has been actively involved in extracurricular activities, notably serving as co-president of the Muzé Committee. Lisa holds offers from University of Oxford for Biochemistry, University of Hong Kong for Science Master Class, University of Edinburgh for Biological Sciences, and University of Toronto for Life Sciences.

What are some of your most memorable moments during your time at SISHK? How has SISHK supported you in your academic and personal growth?

Image: SISHK/ IB DP Graduation Ceremony

We can probably all agree that the main driving factor for our academic growth would be our teachers! Our teachers are extremely willing to listen to our thoughts or doubts in class, review an overwhelming number of practice papers and offer help through consultations. I've had teachers assist me and my class post-surgery or with jet lag, and I've seen teachers sit for hours in the library, consultation after consultation, even after school hours. What more could we ask for? The sheer number of opportunities offered by SISHK also fuelled my academic and personal growth: competitions and clubs to extend my understanding beyond the syllabus, councils, committees and CCAs to participate in leadership, camps to learn new skills, and so much more... I am beyond grateful for our school's support towards the student community.

UC Team

For more insights, we interviewed the SISHK University Counselling Team.

For students applying who will be applying to universities in the future, what guidance could you offer regarding their choice of universities and majors?

Students are advised to do their research and honestly explore and consider their preferences and their options. That might involve intense reading into different subjects or experiencing different areas of work to figure out what they are interested in. They can attend open days, taster lectures, and campus visits to help decide on the type of university they are most suitable for, and share their ideas with their parents. Every secondary student now has access to Unifrog, which should help students jumpstart their learning about their future options.

59th National Dinner Reception

By **CYRUS LEUNG**
Editor-In-Chief

On Singapore National Day, the school took part in the 59th National Day Dinner Reception, where SISHK students delivered phenomenal musical performances. The event would prove special in celebrating the cultural ties between Singapore and Hong Kong and remarked of SISHK's place in the expanding Singapore-Hong Kong Community.

"I'm honoured to have been invited to perform well-known Chinese classical pieces alongside my partner, Nithit, at the National Day Dinner Reception," said Chloe Wong '27. "The event greatly deepened my understanding about the rich Singaporean culture, history, and its trading relationship with Hong Kong."

Alumni Spotlight: Jerry Yang '23

By **EMMA FANG**
Editor-In-Chief

Stanford University

Jerry Yang graduated from Singapore International School (Hong Kong) in 2023 and is now a PhD student studying Mechanical Engineering at Stanford University.

What were some of your most memorable experiences during the IGCSE/IBDP program at SISHK that you think helped prepare you for your studies at Stanford University?

The humanities helped me with my writing skills, and I found the general education writing classes in college relatively easy with such training.

What is life like as a student at Stanford University? Can you describe a typical day?

This greatly varies depending on personal plans. To me, I would normally wake up for a morning class, and head to the gym right after. Then lunch with friends, and spend time on problem sets, personal projects, and self reflection.

Reflecting on your journey, what advice would you give to students applying to universities this year?

You will benefit most by letting go of the mindset of "I have to go to my dream school". You will be at a place that suits you the most.

In your daily studies, how do you incorporate the use of AI?

Very rarely. AI is not very good at formal reasoning at this stage.

Images: Singapore Consulate-General in Hong Kong/ Singapore's 59th National Day Dinner Reception

News

Alumni Reunions in Hong Kong and Singapore

By **EMMA FANG**
Editor-In-Chief

In May and July this year, the SISHK Alumni Association organised alumni gatherings in Hong Kong and Singapore.

The Alumni Association works to help alumni stay connected to each other and to their alma mater, and truly uphold the school's motto of "Success Inspires Success", gratefully recognising all members of SISHK family who helped steer the school forward. The gatherings were a unique opportunity to reconnect, reminisce, and celebrate the enduring legacy of SISHK.

Images: SISHK/
Alumni Reunion in Hong Kong and Singapore

Singapore Day

By **CYRUS LEUNG**
Editor-In-Chief

On August 22, the school would organise Singapore Day; a bombastic introduction to the new school year.

The canteen offered a special lunch menu that consisted of a variety of popular Singaporean dishes including Hainan chicken rice and Singapore fried rice. At the 4/F plaza, the PTA set up tables stocked with traditional Singaporean snacks like pandan cakes, iced gem biscuits, and chicken spicy crackers.

"I had a great time!" expressed Cherrie Tsang from S4-1. "The food was delicious, and I'm really grateful to the PTA and parent volunteers who helped organise this event."

The event was a return to the humble beginnings of the school community and a celebration of the evolving cultural traditions of Singapore that are sure to prosper for years to come.

Mark Yu for The Student Press/ Singapore Day

National University of Singapore Talk and Global Higher Education Fair

By **EMMA FANG** AND
CYRUS LEUNG
Editors-In-Chief

On September 11, Secondary 3 to DP2 students attended the NUS talk, followed by the HE fair organised by the University Counselling Team of SISHK.

Mark Yu for The Student Press/ NUS Talk

An NUS seminar was held at the 7/F Auditorium to encourage senior students to consider the National University of Singapore for their higher education. The talk began with a video from Boey Jun Xin, an SISHK '23 alumna now studying at the National University of Singapore, who shared about her university life there. The university representative, Ms. Eunice Chew, then elaborated on the unique opportunities available at NUS. In her speech, she highlighted the university's strong academic curriculum, vibrant campus life, international exchange programs with numerous universities such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and its extensive career support and abundant job opportunities that help graduates secure positions in top industries around the world.

The students then proceeded to the 12/F Sports Hall for the Global Higher Education Fair (HE fair) organised by the UC team. Representatives from over 80 universities in the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Grenada were invited, including many prestigious universities like the University of Hong Kong, Duke University, and many more.

This year's HE fair saw the introduction of a host of more unconventional universities, such as the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the Schweizerische Hotelfachschule Luzern, and the Hong Kong Culinary Academy, some of the leading institutions in their specialised fields; receiving much praise and intrigue from the student body.

These two events allowed the students to engage with representatives from various institutions and explore diverse university programs all over the world, leaving them inspired and well-informed about their future higher education options.

Mark Yu for The Student Press/ Global Higher Education Fair

Windows of World

By **CYRUS LEUNG**
Editor-In-Chief

In late May this year, after finishing their End-of-Year exams, students from Secondary 1, 2, and 3 embarked on Windows of World (WoW) Trips to explore destinations beyond Hong Kong; and to pursue experiential learning beyond the perimeters of a classroom.

Secondary 1 students were privy to the exploration of Singapore's vibrant heritage, visiting attractions like the Universal Studios Singapore, Gardens By the Bay, Civic District, and the National Museum of Singapore, and greatly enjoyed the multicultural cuisines and dining experiences that the region's cultural melting pot had to offer.

"It was very enjoyable and I loved the fact that I could spend more time with my friends," said Winni Zhang '29, "We also got to learn a lot about Singapore's unique mix of ethnicities, cultures, and its multifaceted history."

For Secondary 2 students, the journey to Beijing included cultural exchanges with local students, and exploring world-renowned sites such as the Forbidden City, the Great Wall of China, and the ancient hutongs of the city, enriching their understanding of one of the most historically profound cities in contemporary China.

Secondary 3 students travelled to Ho Chi Minh City and delved into Vietnam's rich culture and history. They visited various temples, learning of the polytheistic religions that characterised the vivacity and novelty of the region; enjoying negotiations at street markets, and most memorably visited the Cu Chi Tunnels and the War Remnants Museum. They also were exposed to hands-on experiences like pottery-making, cooking traditional Vietnamese dishes, and rice planting.

The WoW trip (Windows of the World) would prove a valuable experience for all lower grade levels, providing a glimpse into the multicultural communities that lay just a plane ride away from them and acting as an unforgettable earmark to conclude their academic year.

Image: SISHK/ S2 and S3 WoW Trip

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